



Matt Western MP
Warwick & Leamington

Hon. Hamish Falconer MP
Minister for Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan & Pakistan
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

Sent via email.

8th July 2026

Dear Minister,

Re: Urgent Question

Thank you for your statement, in response to my Urgent Question, on Wednesday 1st July 2026 regarding Israel's planned illegal expansion of the E1 zone in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

As you are well aware, the bidding period for the tender to expand the E1 Settlement between East Jerusalem and the settlement of Ma'ale Adumim, marks an unconditionally, unacceptable step in this Israeli Government's efforts to destroy any hope of a two-state solution.

Equally disturbing is the prospect of the E1 Settlement displacing 7,000 Palestinian people from their home. Just 5 weeks' ago, I saw first-hand the grave injustice inflicted against Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territories during my visit to Israel & Palestine. The E1 settlement will only further entrench the cruelty, destruction and despair of settler violence inflicted against the Palestinian people.

This is a moment of criticality, for both the UK Government and the international community. It is a moment in which the future of Palestine is promised or betrayed.

Therefore, I must urge you and your colleagues to consider deploying an assertive programme of sanctions and trade restrictions against those responsible for these contemptible plans.

The implementation of a trade ban with illegal Israeli settlements, an expansion of the sanction regime against businesses involved in illegal settler expansions and the discontinuation of any free trade agreement with Israel are urgently needed first steps.

Best regards,


Matt Western
MP for Warwick and Leamington